

PRESS RELEASE

May 31, 2006

RE: UNITED STATES v. YUSEF ALHAKK, a/k/a JOSEPH DANIELS

United States Attorney Terrance P. Flynn announced that a federal grand jury returned an indictment yesterday charging **YUSEF ALHAKK, A/K/A JOSEPH DANIELS**, 59, of Buffalo, with Possession of Child Pornography.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Marie P. Grisanti said the investigation began when federal agents conducted search warrants on a third party billing company, which showed that Alhakk had purchased a membership to Internet web sites containing child pornography. When confronted by agents of the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in January 2005, Alhakk admitted to joining web sites featuring adolescent and teenage models, but denied possessing child pornography. Alhakk also admitted that his computer contained videos of nude teenage and adolescent girls dancing and taking showers. An examination of Alhakk's computer found over 400 images of child pornography on his computer. A criminal complaint was filed against Alhakk's in February 2005.

Alhakk faces a maximum penalty of 10 years imprisonment, plus a \$250,000 fine. This investigation was conducted by United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement,

under the direction of Special Agent-in-Charge Peter Smith. It should be noted that the fact that a defendant has been charged with a crime . . . is merely an accusation and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. (Disciplinary Rule 7-107(B)(6)).

Alhakk failed to appear in Federal Court in September 2005, and a warrant is pending for his arrest. Anyone with information about the whereabouts of Yusef Alhakk should notify the U.S. Marshals Service at 551-4851.

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